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General Assembly
Sixty-eighth session

Official Records

75th plenary meeting
Friday, 7 March 2014, 3 p.m.
New York

President: Mr. Ashe ..... (Antigua and Barbuda)

The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

Agenda item 138 (*continued*)

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (A/68/716/Add.2, A/68/716/Add.3, A/68/716/Add.4 and A/68/716/Add.5)

The President: I should like, in keeping with established practice, to draw the attention of the General Assembly to documents A/68/716/Addenda 2 to 5, in which the Secretary-General informs the President of the General Assembly that, since the issuance of his communication contained in document A/68/716/Add.1, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Timor-Leste, Mauritania and the Sudan have made the payments necessary to reduce their arrears below the amount specified in Article 19 of the Charter.

May I take it that the General Assembly duly takes note of the information contained in these documents?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 7 (*continued*)

Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items

Third report of the General Committee (A/68/250/Add.2)

The President: In the first paragraph of its third report (A/68/250/Add.2), the General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that an additional sub-item entitled "Election of members of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law", be included in the agenda of the current session under agenda item 115 entitled "Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections" under heading I, "Organizational, administrative and other matters".

May I take it that the General Assembly decides to include this sub-item in the agenda of the current session under agenda item 115 and heading I?

It was so decided.

The President: In paragraph 1 (b), the General Committee further recommended that the sub-item be considered directly in plenary meeting. May I take it that the General Assembly decides to consider this sub-item in plenary meeting?

It was so decided.

The President: I should like to inform members that this additional sub-item becomes sub-item (f) of agenda item 115 in the agenda of the current session.

In paragraph 2 (a) of the report, the General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that an additional item, entitled "Investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him", be included in the agenda of the current session under heading I, "Organizational, administrative and other matters".

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May I take it that the General Assembly decides to include this item in the agenda of the current session under heading I?

It was so decided.

The President: In paragraph 2 (b), the General Committee further recommends that the item be considered directly in plenary meeting. May I take it that the General Assembly decides to consider this item in plenary meeting?

It was so decided.

The President: I should like to inform Members that this additional item becomes agenda item 175 in the agenda of the current session.

The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of the third report of the General Committee.

Agenda 115 (*continued*)

Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections

(d) Election of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme

Note by the Secretary-General (A/68/770)

The President: Members will recall that, by its decision 60/409 of 16 March 2006, the General Assembly, on the proposal of the Secretary-General, elected Mr. Achim Steiner to be Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme for a four-year term of office, beginning on 15 June 2006 and ending on 14 June 2010.

I should like also to recall to members that, by its decision 64/420 of 22 April 2010, the General Assembly, on the proposal of the Secretary-General, re-elected Mr. Achim Steiner as Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme for an additional four-year term of office, beginning on 15 June 2010 and ending on 14 June 2014.

In accordance with section II, paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII) of the twenty-seventh session of 15 December 1972, the Secretary-General wishes to nominate Mr. Steiner for re-election as Executive Director of the Programme for a term of two years, beginning on 15 June 2014 and ending on 14 June 2016.

Accordingly, may I take it that the General Assembly wishes to re-elect Mr. Achim Steiner as Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme for a two-year term of office, beginning on 15 June 2014 and ending on 14 June 2016?

It was so decided.

The President: On behalf of the Assembly, I would like to congratulate Mr. Steiner on his re-election as Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme.

May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (d) of agenda item 115?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 7 (*continued*)

Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items

The President: The Assembly has before it a report of the Fifth Committee on sub-item (a) of agenda item 116, entitled "Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions", contained in document A/68/557/Add.1.

In order for the Assembly to consider the report of the Fifth Committee under the sub-item, it will be necessary to reopen consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 116. May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to reopen consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 116 and proceed immediately to its consideration?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 116 (*continued*)

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments

(a) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/68/557/Add.1)

The President: In paragraph 3 of the report contained in document A/68/557/Add.1, the Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly appoint Mr. Ye Xuenong (China) as a member of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary

Questions for a term of office beginning on 7 March 2014 and ending on 31 December 2016.

May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to appoint Mr. Ye Xuenong (China) as a member of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a term of office beginning on 7 March 2014 and ending on 31 December 2016?

It was so decided.

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 116?

It was so decided.

(g) Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences

Note of the Secretary-General (A/68/91)

The President: Members will recall that at its 60th plenary meeting on 5 December 2013, the Assembly took note of the appointments of Denmark, Japan, Mauritania, Qatar, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America as members of the Committee on Conferences for a period of three years, beginning on 1 January 2014. Members will also recall that at its 74th plenary meeting on 10 February 2014, the Assembly took note of the appointment of Jamaica as a member of the Committee on Conferences for a term of office beginning on the date of appointment and ending on 31 December 2016.

Members will further recall that there remained two vacant seats from the Latin American and Caribbean States, one seat for a term of office beginning on the date of appointment and ending on 31 December 2014, and one seat for a term of office beginning on the date of appointment and ending on 31 December 2015. On the recommendation of the Chair of the Latin American and Caribbean States, I have appointed Uruguay as a member of the Committee on Conferences for a term of office beginning on 7 March 2014 and ending on 31 December 2015. May I take it that the Assembly takes note of this appointment?

It was so decided.

The President: Regarding the remaining vacant seat from the Latin American and Caribbean States, I urge the Group to submit their candidature as soon as possible.

The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (g) of agenda item 116.

The meeting rose at 3.20 p.m.